

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Cragg et al.

Appl. No.

09/782,534

Filed

February 13, 2001

For

APPARATUS FOR

PERFORMING A DISCECTOMY THROUGH A TRANS-SACRAL AXIAL BORE WITHIN THE VERTEBRAE OF THE SPINE

Examiner

Kathryn Odland

Group Art Unit

3743

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 23, 2004

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 23, 2004, Applicant respectfully submits the following remarks regarding the above captioned application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.